

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 627

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of J.R. Bowman of Erwin.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of J.R. Bowman; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bowman was a United States Navy veteran and beloved Unicoi County resident who worked assiduously to improve the quality of live for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, the son of William Ray and Prude C. Tipton Bowman, J.R. Bowman grew up attending the family's home church, Shallow Ford Baptist Church, in Erwin; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bowman served his country valiantly as a member of the U.S. Navy and was deployed to the South Pacific during World War II; upon his return from the military, he completed correspondence studies through Chicago Tech as well as local apprenticeships, in addition to working on the Saint Lawrence Seaway in New York; and

WHEREAS, he then became a licensed general contractor and formed Bowman Construction, now Bowman and Sons Construction, in 1960; he built numerous homes in the early years of his business and later constructed many commercial buildings, bridges, and schools; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong servant of God, J.R. Bowman was a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Erwin; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, J.R. Bowman will be lovingly remembered by his wife of thirty years, Susan Lovins Bowman; sons, Ronald (Kathy) Bowman, Doug (Teresa) Bowman, Dan (Lisa) Bowman,

Tom (Robin) Bowman, and Tim (Agnes) Bowman; daughter, Beth (Joe) Page; and daughter-in-law, Gail Keiger Bowman; and

WHEREAS, he is further mourned by his children by marriage, Laura Beth (Bob) Fletcher, Sarah Anne (Andrew) Heil, Ashlee (Brandon) Hubbard-Heitz; brother, Leonard (Jean) Bowman; sisters, Freda Ledford and Barbara Walker; brother-in-law, John Nave; sister-in-law, Linda (Oscar) Napier; twenty-four grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and numerous nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Judy Barnett Bowman; son, Stephen Bowman; brother, Hilbert Dean Bowman; sisters, Alenia Minton and Wilburn Nave; brothers-in-law, Bob Minton, Dick Walker, and Bruce Ledford; and sister-in-law, Janet Bowman; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bowman leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of J.R. Bowman, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Bowman.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to

the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.